

ZARTONK

21 December 1947

Photo of Mr. Joseph Oughourlian, specialist in financial questions, has just arrived from Paris, where he accompanied Mr. Hamid FRANJIIYAH, Minister of Foreign Affairs. Mr. OUGHOURLIAN has shown great ability in all matters discussed and thus could protect the interests of Lebanon. When Mr. Van Zeland was invited to Lebanon to study financial questions, in an interview he told the President: "In the person of Mr. Joseph OUGHOURLIAN, you have a really able specialist in financial matters."

-----

November 29 was celebrated in the Melkonian Education Institute, Nicosia, Cyprus. The opening speech was made by Dean T. VOSGUIAN, who emphasized the meaning of the day and its effect on the Armenian people. Dr. Har. ESEGULIAN, teacher of Armenian language and literature, spoke about the many changes that were brought by November 29, thus giving our country a chance to industrialize and progress.

There were also songs, declamations, etc. by the students of the Institute.

26 December 1947

Armenian and Georgian Claims  
(Article by A. N. Nazar)

This article gives the concise history of Armenian and Georgian claims of land from Turkey, recalls the promise of Stalin to the All Armenian Catholics and concludes that the two claims are not antagonistic and that both Armenia and Georgia have a lot to gain and nothing to lose if, by reciprocal agreement, they arrange their frontiers amicably. He believes that this will eventually be done.

-----

Musician and composer, Kourken ALEMSHAH, has died suddenly in Detroit. He was only 40 and was a man of genius. He had gone to the United States from Paris and was a great success in the United States.

-----

In "AZTAG WEEKLY" - December 19 - there is a series of six articles about "The new role of Lake Sevan." It is an interesting and useful article written by VRAN, who studies the problem scientifically and mentions the goods that the plan will bring to Soviet Armenia. The Government allots "1200 million roubles to the Zanko hydro-electric

center, 1700 million rubles to the Ams Center, 200 million rubles for electric lines and sub-stations, 700 million rubles for irrigation canals. A total of 3800 million rubles."

His conclusion is characteristic: "Considering the present population of Armenia, about 1,500,000 of the population live in the cities, and the natural growth of the population, we shall have 3,500,000 people in small Armenia after the realization of the Lake Sevan plan."

-----

The first lecture of the Armenian students Union (of Universities) took place in Zareh-Noubar Club. The speaker was Mr. Hagop NORASHKARIAN, and the subject was "The Origin and the Developments of the Armenian question." He dated back the origin of the Armenian question to 1375, when by the fall of the Roupinian-Lousinian Kingdom, the Armenians lost their independence and their country. Then came the migration of Armenians to other countries. Now, we have our state, the immigration of Armenians is realized; therefore, the only question still to be solved is the one of claims for lands. Then NORASHKARIAN mentioned the chief periods from Israel ORI to San Stefano and the Congress of Berlin, then the European inspectors (1914), Sevr and Lozan and the recent developments. Then he concluded: "We must tell all enemies of the Armenian Question that those historical lands that are irrigated by Armenian blood and toil can be had only by passing over the corpses of 4,000,000 Armenians. The Armenians will fight, up to the last man, to get back their just claims and rights."

NOTE: The above Students Unions was reorganized this year and has an executive committee of seven. They have a fine organization and there are lectures, meetings, songs, discussions, dancing parties, etc.

JOGHOVOURTI TZAIN

21 December 1947

What is the Aim of Anti-Communist Fight?

The local communists do not work by orders from London, Washington, or Moscow. Written by Raif KHURI. Published in local paper "DIYAR."

It seems that the editors of certain papers and even certain chiefs of Arab countries do not understand communism and they are greatly confused in the idealistic field. Communism is a system of handing to the people the feudalistic lands, banks, means of transportation and large industries. This is the scientific meaning.

From the social and financial viewpoint, communism means the establishment of a democratic government which is based on the products of the mind and hand, i.e. on the laborers, peasants, and intellectuals. Another meaning of communism is the fight against the rule of foreign soldiers, politicians, financiers, and intellectuals.

If the anti-communistic fight is being waged against the scientific field, that would be quixotism, as no one is inviting this country to that end.

From the social, the financial, and the fight against foreign rule viewpoint, no one will blame the communists in their cooperation for the independence of Arab countries. And their policy against the division of Palestine is not new; it started in the days of Lord Peel and Minister Morisson.

Thus the fight against communists is not justified.

No Arab patriot can fight the communists and create a disunity in the nation.

-----  
The Lebanese Syndicate Center has received a letter from the World Democratic Young Men's Center, informing them that a delegation will visit the Middle East during the coming month.

The World Democratic Young Men's Center's role will be:

1. To investigate the conditions of life and the activities of the organizations of young laborers, peasants, and students.
  2. To strengthen the bonds of cooperation and friendship with these young men.
-

21 December 1947

From Radio Erivan. Up to now the production of tobacco in Soviet Armenia has reached 800,500 tons. The Golkhozes of Soviet Armenia have delivered to the Government 400,000 tons of wheat over the estimated amount.

Up to October 20, the Erivan factory for canned fruits has produced 15,000 times more cans than the estimated amount.

Today, December 21, the municipal elections are taking place in Soviet Armenia, and many immigrants, such as Krikor DEMIRJIAN, Takvor TOROSSIAN, Miss Meline MANOUSHIAN, are participating as candidates for election.

-----  
The religious seminary of Echmiadzin (near Erivan) has completed its second year. During the academic year of 1946-1947, the seminary recorded great progress, the number of students was doubled, new professors and able lecturers were invited, and the cultural life and the standard of living of the students was raised. The Most Rev. Catholicos (Religious Head of Orthodox Armenians) has done and is doing his best for the seminary. Special care and attention is devoted to the religious education of the students, also to scientific, historical, and philosophical subjects.

-----  
Photo and biography of the late Setrag Agha KHERLAKIAN, Armenian patriot from Marash, who fought against the Turks with great courage and tact.

-----  
Tateos TOPALIAN of New York, from Sivas, Anatolia, has bequeathed his whole fortune of \$8000.00 to the Armenian University of Erivan.

-----  
Letter from Soviet Armenia.

Mr. A. KHERLAKIAN, who immigrated to Soviet Armenia this year, has written a letter to his sister, Mrs. TCHAKMAKJIAN, telling her that he is fine, is working as a geologist, the Armenians have every facility, and that Erivan is a very beautiful city. He requests his sister to come with the first caravan next year.

24 December 1947

An article by Dr. A. YESSAYAN, Professor of Law (probably in the Armenian University of Erivan), who states that according to the constitution Soviet Armenia has the rights and opportunities for progress.

-----  
The Soviet Government requests France to permit the immigration of Armenians to Soviet Armenia.

-----  
Something all Armenians Should Know - With Turkey against Soviet Armenia.

"For the free and independent existance of the Armenian people, we must be together with our neighbors in the Caucasuses. The Caucasuses should be separated from the north. In order to fight the Bolsheviki we greatly need the friendship, even the assistance, of neighboring Turkey. We must frankly look for a way of understanding with the Turks, which will be also the way for cooperation with them. ..."

These lines are from "Wanderings of Armenian Political Mind" written by Roupen TARPINIAN (Tashnak Leader) and published in "Hairenik" monthly in the United States in 1923.

This shows that the betrayal of Tashnak leaders is not something new. Unfortunately, Hitler could not provide these chairless ministers with a small kingdom. And now they are attached to, and hoping from, the protector of reactionary Turkey, from Americans (?)

It will soon be apparent that, after the meeting of Tashnak leaders in Egypt, the green dollars which brought TARPINIAN and his friends to the Middle East will also lead them to Ankara.

The fate of servants is to move according to the will of their masters.

-----  
The Communist Party Club is reopened by official order. The news was greeted with great joy by the majority of the people. At last it was proved that the throwing of the bomb was a plot in order to break up the unity of the Arab countries in their fight for Palestine and against the Communist Party itself.

Farajallah HILU and Hasan QURAYTIM have applied many times to the Prosecutor General, and deputy Dr. HITTI has intervened on behalf of the Palestine Committee. Both the Prosecutor General and the Investigating Judge declared that the Communist Party is blameless according to law and therefore the Club should be opened. The opening of the Club was a great victory for democratic peoples.

25 December 1947

Article by H. AGHBASHIAN, editor, in which he says that the change of tune in Turkish official circles has lately become conspicuous. This is due to the unity of the Balkan states, but only the future will show if Turkey is frank or has changed its attitude under the impulse of fear from the unity of its Balkan neighbors.

26 December 1947

Music of Soviet Armenia, by Kh. TORCHIAN

This is an article published in three issues giving the chronological history of music in Armenia, especially after it was Sovietized. Biographies and the works of A. SPENTIARIAN, Romanoss MELIKIAN, N. DIKRANIAN, Sarkis PARKHOUTARIAN, Aram KHATCHADSURIAN, Haro STEPANIAN, Krikor YEGHIAZARIAN, A. DER-GHEVONTIAN, G. ZAKARIAN, V. ARARADIAN, Ar. AYUAZIAN and YERITZIAN (to name the most famous ones) are given.

At present, there are 13 schools of music, one conservatory and another one founded this year and attached to the Scientific Academy of Soviet Armenia. The music of the Armenian people has made very great progress in these twenty seven years, and today stands on an equal basis with other great musical nations of the world.

-----  
28 December 1947

Contribution for Palestine

We learn that the Political Council of Armenians in Lebanon has discussed the question of contributions for Palestine. After an exchange of opinions, the meeting authorized the Hon. Bishop and the President to invite the famous nationals of the city, business men and factory owners, etc. in order to discuss the arrangements for a campaign in favor of Palestine for financial assistance.

-----  
"Telegraph" says that the opening of the Communist Party Club is a victory for freedom, that they are grateful for this, and requests that the ban on "Saut ash-SHA'B" be lifted, in order that it may continue its fight for freedom, independence and for Palestine.  
-----

28 December 1947

News from Soviet Armenia

The young musician, Godigue BAGHDASARIAN, who immigrated to Soviet Armenia from Teheran, has entered the Conservatory of Erivan, where he has shown great talent and was highly appreciated and praised. He is now under the special care and love of his teachers and professors.

Twenty three of the fifty one members of the Armenian Philharmonic of Erivan are immigrants. The conductor is from Altounian.

In Erivan, not far from the government Palace, a magnificent two-story building has been erected especially for his Holiness, the Catholicos, when he visits Erivan. The building is Armenian style.

1 January 1948

Official Declaration of the Armenian Sections of the Communist Parties of Syria and Lebanon

In order to facilitate the gathering together of all the Armenian national forces around Armenia - and to that end to devote all of our forces for the essential work of gathering the nation in our mother country - as well as to protect the fundamental interests of the Armenian people and to keep the Armeno-Arab friendship by the close cooperation of all Armenian movements, it is decided to dissolve the Armenian sections of the Communist Parties of Syria and Lebanon, and to organize "Patriots' Union."

This is the summary of the declaration made after a meeting of the Lebanese and Syrian Sections in Beirut on December 30, 1947. The purpose of the new organization - "Patriots' Union" - is stated as follows:

1. To assist, by every means, the essential work of gathering Armenians in the mother country.
2. To try to effect the return to Soviet Armenia of the land occupied by force.
3. To help the Armenian cultural, educational, and benevolent enterprises and to help the Armenians obtain better economic conditions.
4. To keep and to strengthen the friendship of Armenian and Arab peoples.
5. As citizens of Syria and Lebanon, to protect the independence and the Republics of Syria and Lebanon.

6. In order to succeed in the above purposes, to strengthen and to widen the cooperation of all national movements.

-----

Letter from Soviet Armenia  
Dated December 5, 1947

The letter speaks mostly about the "Pakramian" athletic group (football players) who immigrated from Beirut. "Pakramian" is the second most powerful group in Armenia and the people like it and have great hopes for it.

On December 21, the local Soviet elections will be held. Here the deputies are elected for their work, quantity and quality both considered. Garbis KALENDARIAN is a candidate, because he has overdone his work by 200-300%. Mihran KAFESSIAN (from TRAD Quarter of Beirut) is also a candidate who has overdone his plan by 500-600%. There are many other candidates from among the immigrating Armenians.

4 January 1948

Article by Hovh. AGHBASHIAN, Editor, about the decision to dissolve the Armenian sections of the Communist Parties in Syria and Lebanon. He enumerates the reasons for the dissolution and the purpose of the new organization - "Patriots Union" - as stated in the declaration and translated above. He states that the declaration was signed by Hovh. AGHBASHIAN, Harutun MADOYAN, Harutun MAKHIAN, Garabed PASHABEZIAN, Barouyr YERETZIAN, Hagop TCHEKJENIAN, and that with this decision they are loyal to their original moto, which is "With the people and for the people."

-----

Which one is correct? According to the book of Vahan NAVASARTIAN - "Straits (Bosphorus) and Dardanelles" - a Tashnak leader and ex-"Minister", the United States Secretary of State James Burns made a speech in Washington on October 10, 1945, which Reuters said he concluded as follows:

"Pretending that he is giving secret details about the Potsdam meeting, J. Burns said that Russian definitely asked for bases in the Dardanelles and has requested Kars and Ardahan, two mountainous regions of strategic importance to Armenia.

"We cannot believe that the United States Secretary of State would make such a responsible declaration if it were not in accordance with facts."

This book is now out of circulation. Why? Wall street has ordered that the Tashnaks should not know that "Russia has asked for the return of Kars and Ardahan to Armenia," but they should read Garo SASSOUNI's poisonous, Turkish smelling lines that "in 1946 the Russians could not occupy any place, but could take in 25,000 Armenian laborers in the Soviet Union."

6 January 1948

The New Year and Christmas message of Karekin Catholicos (of Antilias) sent to the National Councils of Armenians in Lebanon, Syria and Cyprus and given by the Beirut Radio on Sunday.

"Our people need peace and unity. We are greatly worried about the lack of it. We ask our people not to exaggerate their expressions, not to spread false news about each other and to remember always the principle of mutual respect. This request is especially made to the press. Let us beware of exaggerations and of bad feelings, especially against the church.

Our wish and prayer for this New Year is that we become prudent and sober, we unite our abilities, our literary, cultural, and artistic powers and cooperate in every field, and then the smallness of our number will be changed to greatness of quality."

-----

The Vishinsky declaration according to UNO records.

According to this version, there is no mention of Kars and Ardahan for Georgians. He says, "Let us also compare the declarations of Armenians and Georgians, proving that those lands that are under Turkish yoke in the Turkish Republic are really Armenian and not Turkish lands." (According to "Joghovourti Tzain" this is an official and certified translation from certified English.)

9 January 1948

Right Way of Serving the Armenian People  
(By G. K. PASHABEZIAN)

This article is about the self-dissolution of the Armenian section of the Communist Parties of Syria and Lebanon and the organization of the new "Patriots Union". Quotes the written and oral ideas of people from various levels of Armenian Society, all appreciating the dissolution and the forming of a new organization as the best plan under present conditions.

Refutes "AZTAG's" statement that it is shameful for an organization

to dissolve itself and to reorganize under a new name in order to try to make the people forget their sinful and shameful past," and quotes "Hairenik" of the United States, whose editor, a Tashnak leader, has declared to an American correspondent that "Hairenik" (in other words the Tashnak Party - G.K.P.) has now become a purely cultural and idealistic body.

The dissolution of the Armenian section of the Communist Parties of Syria and Lebanon and the formation of the "Patriots Union" is approved by all classes of Armenians, and it is firmly believed that this is the right way of serving the Armenian people.

-----

The Communist Party Club is closed again. According to BAP Agency, Great Britain and the US have promised the Arab League to help them in facilitating their problems if the members of the League take steps for an "anti-communist fight." Accordingly, the Government has again closed the Club and sealed the door.